

time has been usually warm & fine. The
maples, willows & poplars are already in leaf &
the tulips in blossom. Some two or three weeks
earlier than usual.

With best regards to Mrs. Gray, believe
me my dear Dr. Gray,
always faithfully yours
J. Steyer Hunt

Dr. Asa Gray

Steyer Hunt

Montreal, May 10. 1870.

My dear Dr Gray,

I have been waiting an occasion
since your return from the old world ~~de~~
me rappeler à votre bon souvenir, but the
time never came for writing, & during ^{my} the little
visit to the United States last month, I was
unable to get so far as Boston. Now, how-
ever, I have an object in writing. Last week
our good friend the Abbé Brunel was here
from Quebec, & at my suggestion, sent you a
copy of his little manual Elements de Botanique
which I hope you received. This, his little
volume, has been bitterly attacked by his
dear friend & rival, the Abbé Provencher,
in his Naturaliste Canadien. as showing an
utter ignorance of the elements of botany &
physiology - in fact he proclaims Brunel
an impostor, and his book a libel on
botanical science. Now Provencher

published a similar volume 12 years since
of which a good part lies on his publisher's
shelves, while of Brunet's book 800 copies
were at once taken, Hence the attack, &
suppression. Brunet says that he is very sure
of his facts, gleaned from your own works
and from his notes of the lectures, which he
followed, of DeCausine, Bouquard & Ducharte
&c, & counselled him to send you a copy, & prom-
ised to write you to ask you, if you could, to
say a good word for it in the next number
of the American Journal of Science. Whatever
may be his short-comings Brunet is a faith-
ful & conscientious worker, & Providence,
whatever his merits, is a charlatan, as
between the two I wish to see the one hum-
bled & the other exalted. Will you do what
you can, conscientiously, for my friend?
I may notice the drawings, made by Men-
made by Brunet on the blocks, and I
think very creditable to him.
I have been working like a slave all winter

and am still busy buying out a volume of
Reports. I have the responsibility of everything now
the new official head (Sir William then resigned)
knows but little of structural geology, nothing
of the nature of the country, so I am obliged to
look to everything myself. I am getting a some-
what important result in N. England geology &
hope to be able this summer to do a great
deal more. I go to Nova Scotia & New
Brunswick next month & shall hope
to spend there much of the season - but
look forward to the passing a day or so in
Boston before long, and to the pleasure of
meeting yourself and Ann Gray -
I am now keeping house here very plain-
ly, with my sister, & if it please you
and Ann Gray to pay another visit to
Montreal this summer, we shall be
delighted to see and to entertain you. I
want to know from you what report
you have of our dear friend Madame
Vilmorin & her family. Our spring